HC.A.1.1 v.7, p.938

Roxbury, Dec. 23, 1868.

Dear Wendell:

It will be pardonable if I wish Lucy, and you, and baby Lloyd, "a merry Christmas" a day in advance; embodying in that wish all others of a pleasant nature from your mother, William, Fanny, Frank, Ellie and Harry.

I am expecting that an article of mine will appear in the Independent to-morrow, and should my expectation be met, I desire Oliver to pay to you the $25 usually allowed in such cases, (very handsome pay, certainly,) instead of sending me a check for the same. Out of that sum I wish you to buy two of the new Adding Machine, by C. H. Webb, 680 Broadway — each costing $6 in brass. One of these I wish to be presented to George, with my love and as a Christmas gift — trusting it will save

him a great deal of perplexity in computation, and be of daily practical use to him in the office. The other I wish to be forwarded to me, to be given to Frank for a similar purpose. I saw Mr. Webb in Boston some time since, and examined his machine, and feel confident it is as reliable as it is wonderful. Let George be sure to understand its operation, and it will greatly interest him. Then I wish you to buy me a three dollar musical box, as designated in the accompanying advertisement, if it is anything like what it claims to be. The remaining ~~ten~~ dollars I wish you to hand to Lucy as a Christmas remembrance for herself and Lloyd, to be spent as she chooses. Of course, should my article not appear in the Independent, then my "Adder," Musical Box, Christmas gift, &c., will be like fat in the fire; but only for the time being — for I will send the amount named in season for New Year's day.

Mr. Webb leaves us for Providence to-morrow, to be gone a week. He gets about with less difficulty than when he first came to us. Deborah has so rapidly improved under Dr. Dow's electrical treatment that she has been able to walk four miles at one time.

Frank has agreed to remain with P. T. Jackson as his clerk, for one year, for $500. It is a good situation.

Should my article be printed, it will be sufficient to tell Oliver that I have authorised you to receive the pay for it, in order to make some purchases for me.

We all send our "merry Christmas" to our beloved Mr. and Mrs. McKim.

Hoping you and George are rid of your cold, and regretting that I cannot be at the Park on Friday, I remain,

Your loving Father,

W. L. G.

Ms: A.1.1 v.7, p.93B